AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of treating heart failure and/or renal failure in a patient, comprising administering CGRP to said patient at a rate between about 50 and 500 ng/min for a time between 30 minutes and 8 hours per day as needed to provide symptomatic relief, attenuate ~~prevent exacerbation of~~ symptoms, ~~and/or prevent~~ and/or delay progression of the disease state of heart failure in said patient, wherein said treatment is followed by a maintenance therapy comprising administration of CGRP at a rate between about 0.8 to 10 ng/min to relieve or attenuate symptoms or delay progression of said heart failure.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said CGRP is administered parenterally, orally, sublingually, intranasally, intracoronary, intra-arterially, intravenously, transmucosally, or intradermally.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said CGRP is administered via a constant rate pump, a variable rate pump, a programmable pump, or an osmotic pump.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein said CGRP is administered transdermally.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The method of claim 4, wherein said transdermal administration is accomplished with a transdermal delivery device, a cream, an ointment, a patch or a bandage.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The method of claim 4, wherein said CGRP is combined with a penetration enhancer.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The method of claim 6, wherein said penetration enhancer is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, isopropanol, oleyl

alcohol, ethoxydiglycol, sodium xylene sulfonate, ethanol, oleic acid, N-methylpyrrolidone, laurocapram, alkanecarboxylic acids, dimethylsulfoxide, polar lipids, and N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The method of claim 6, wherein said penetration enhancer is oleic acid, oleyl alcohol or a long-chain fatty acid.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said CGRP is combined with one or more agents selected from the group consisting of alcohols, moisturizers, humectants, oils, emulsifiers, thickeners, thinners, surface active agents, fragrances, preservatives, antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising administering at least one drug selected from the group consisting of anti-proliferative agents, anti-clotting agents, vasodilators, diuretics, beta-blockers, calcium ion channel blockers, blood thinners, cardiotonics, ACE inhibitors, anti-inflammatories, and antioxidants.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein said CGRP and said at least one drug are administered as an admixture, separately and simultaneously, or separately in any order.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the length of said treatment is sufficient to improve renal blood flow, glomerular filtration rates, and/or serum levels of urea and creatinine in said patient.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said treatment is administered to said patient in a hospital for the duration of the time said patient is in the hospital.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said treatment is administered to <u>said</u> [[a]] patient on an outpatient basis.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said patient is a pediatric patient.

Claim 16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method of treating heart failure in a patient, comprising administering CGRP to said patient at a rate between about 500 and 600 ng/min for up to 8 hours per day for at least three consecutive days ~~or several times~~ per week as needed to provide symptomatic relief, attenuate ~~prevent exacerbation of~~ symptoms, ~~and/or prevent~~ and/or delay progression of the disease state of heart failure in said patient, wherein said treatment is optionally followed by a maintenance therapy comprising administration of CGRP at a rate between about 0.8 to 10 ng/min to relieve or attenuate symptoms or delay progression of said heart failure.

Claim 18 (original): The method, of claim 17, wherein said treatment is provided as outpatient therapy, in an emergency room, or in an intensive care unit.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 17, wherein said treatment further improves the quality of life of said patient.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A method of treating heart failure and/or renal failure in a patent, comprising administering CGRP to a heart failure patient as an initial or maintenance therapy at a rate between 0.8 to 10 ng/kg/min two or more times per day as needed to provide symptomatic relief, attenuate ~~prevent exacerbation of~~ symptoms, ~~and/or prevent~~ and/or delay progression of the disease state of heart failure in said patient, wherein said treatment is followed by a maintenance therapy comprising administration of CGRP at a rate between about 0.8 to 10 ng/min to relieve or attenuate symptoms or delay progression of said heart failure.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): A method of preventing or reducing the risk of occurrence of myocardial infarction, comprising administering to a human at risk of having a myocardial infarction a CGRP formulation in an amount effective to prevent or reduce the risk of said myocardial infarction.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): A method of counteracting ischemia in a patient, wherein said ischemia is due to a myocardial infarction, said method comprising administering CGRP to said patient as an initial or maintenance therapy, alone or in conjunction with other interventional therapies, at a rate between 0.8 to 16 ng/kg/min for up to 24 hours per day as needed to provide

cardioprotection, reduction in infarction size, reduction in reperfusion injury, symptomatic relief, and/or prevent exacerbation of symptoms.

Claim 23 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance therapy is administered over a period of 3, 6, or 9 months.

Claim 24 (new): The method of claim 17, wherein the maintenance therapy is administered over a period of 3, 6, or 9 months.

Claim 25 (new): The method of claim 20, wherein the maintenance therapy is administered over a period of 3, 6, or 9 months.

Claim 26 (new): A method of treating heart failure and/or renal failure in a patient comprising administering CGRP to said patient at a rate between about 0.8 to 10 ng/min.

Claim 27 (new): The method of claim 26, wherein the CGRP is administered over a period of 3, 6, or 9 months.